MAIL STOP AF
RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
EXAMINING GROUP 2100

AF
EJW

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	B. Dharmarajan	Attorney Docket No. MSFT11543	Corres. and Mail
Application No.:	09/650,105	Group Art Unit: 2131	BOX AF
Filed:	August 29, 2000	Examiner: T.T. Arani	

Title: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR AUTHORIZING A CLIENT COMPUTER TO ACCESS A SERVER COMPUTER

TRANSMITTAL LETTER FOR RESPONSE
AFTER FINAL REJECTION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
AND PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Seattle, Washington 98101

July 14, 2005

TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:

A. Transmittal

Transmitted herewith is a "Response and Request for Reconsideration" in the above-identified application. No additional claim fee is required.

B. Petition for Extension of Time

Applicant respectfully requests that the shortened statutory period for response to the outstanding Office Action dated February 15, 2005, set to expire on May 15, 2005, be extended by two months to expire on July 15, 2005.

Enclosed is our Check No. 164903 in the amount of:

_____	$120 (one month)	_____	$1020 (three months)
X	$450 (two months)	_____	$1590 (four months)

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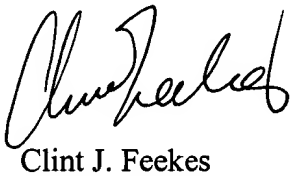
C. Additional Fee Charges or Credit for Overpayment

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16, 1.17 and 1.18 which may be required during the entire pendency of the application, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 03-1740. This authorization also hereby includes a request for any extensions of time of the appropriate length required upon the filing of any reply during the entire prosecution of this application. A copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

CHRISTENSEN O'CONNOR
JOHNSON KINDNESS[PLLC]



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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service in a sealed envelope as first class mail with postage thereon fully prepaid and addressed to Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the below date.

Date: July 14, 2005 

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RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
EXAMINING GROUP 2100

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	B. Dharmarajan	Attorney Docket No.:	MSFT115431
Application No.:	09/650,105	Group Art Unit:	2131
Filed:	August 29, 2000	Examiner:	T.T. Arani

Title: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR AUTHORIZING A CLIENT COMPUTER TO ACCESS A SERVER COMPUTER

RESPONSE AND REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Seattle, Washington 98101

July 14, 2005

TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Applicant respectfully requests that the above-identified patent application be reexamined and reconsidered. Claims 1-21 are now pending in this application. In a final Office Action dated February 15, 2005 (hereinafter the "Office Action"), Claims 1-5, 8-13, 17, 19, and 21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,263,432 to Sasmazel et al. (hereinafter "Sasmazel"), in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,721,777 to Blaze et al. (hereinafter "Blaze"), in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,101,486 to Roberts et al. (hereinafter "Roberts"), in further view of U.S. Patent No. 5,999,711 to Misra et al. (hereinafter "Misra"). Claims 6-7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sasmazel in view of Blaze, Roberts, and Misra, and in further view of U.S. Patent No. 6,005,853 to Wang et al. (hereinafter "Wang"). Claims 14-16, 18, and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sasmazel in view of Roberts, Blaze, and Misra, and in further view of U.S. Patent No. 5,481,539 to Hershey et al. (hereinafter "Hershey"). Prior to discussing in detail why

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applicant believes that all of the claims in the application are allowable, a brief description of applicant's invention and the cited references is provided.

The following discussions of the disclosed embodiments of applicant's invention and the teachings of the applied references are not provided to define the scope or interpretation of any of applicant's claims. Instead, such discussed differences are provided to help the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (hereinafter "the Office") better appreciate important claim distinctions discussed thereafter.

Summary of the Present Invention

The present invention allows users of a client computer to access a second server-based application based on previously provided authorization to access a first server-based application. The access to the second server-based application is based on the previously provided access to a first server-based application that can securely authenticate a client computer without requiring a user to endure a lengthy log-in procedure.

The invention is ideally suited for use with client computers capable of concurrently executing multiple client application programs, such as an instant messaging client application and a Web browser application. The client computer may make requests to server-based applications. If the client computer is authorized to access a first server-based application, an authorization ticket will be transmitted to the client computer. The authorization ticket is encrypted and includes a time stamp indicating the time at which the authentication ticket was created. Once the client computer has been provided authorization to access the first server-based application, a client application starts an elapsed time counter.

In one implementation of the present invention, when a request is made by the client computer to access a second server-based application, the client application communicating with

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the first server-based application determines the session length based upon the elapsed time counter. The client application then concatenates the original authorization ticket, the session length, and a secret shared with the second server-based application. A hash function is then applied to the concatenated data to create a unique hash value. The client stores the authorization ticket, the session length, and the hash value in a file that is accessible to a second client application executing on the client computer. The client also starts a persistence timer when the file is saved. The persistence timer is periodically checked to determine if a predetermined amount of time has elapsed. If the predetermined amount of time has elapsed, the file is deleted from the client computer.

The client computer then launches the second client application and causes a log-in request to be transmitted from the second client application to the second server-based application. The request includes the file containing the authorization ticket, the session length, and the hash. The second client application then receives and displays results received from the second server-based application. When the second server-based application receives the log-in request, the authorization ticket is decrypted and the shared secret is obtained from a database. The second server-based application then compares the computed hash value to the hash value received from the second client application. If the two hash values are identical, the second server-based application authorizes the client computer. As a result, a user does not experience multiple log-in procedures when accessing multiple server-based applications that service different client-based applications.

Summary of Sasmazel

Sasmazel purportedly discloses a system for authentication of data communications over a network that maintains user authorization throughout a network session. More specifically,

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Sasmazel purportedly allows a distributed system to maintain user authorization regardless of which computer in the distributed system handles the user request. Two server computers are used to authenticate a user and maintain that authentication throughout a network session—for example, a Web site visit. The first server is the "authentication server," which performs actions necessary to authenticate a user. The second server is the "authorization server" that checks a user's authorization level. According to Sasmazel, the authentication server is the core of the system, serving to coordinate processes including receiving authentication information from a user and generating an eticket. The authorization server uses the information in the eticket to check authorization functionality.

Summary of Blaze

Blaze purportedly discloses a system for cryptographic key management that includes a smartcard that stores information about predetermined conditions under which an escrow agent is able to decrypt data files. Also, the Blaze system includes a tracking mechanism that records every time the smartcard is used for decryption. More specifically, Blaze purportedly discloses a portable cryptographic module (i.e., smartcard) that is configured to store programmed instructions whose execution grants access to cleartext data files. The programmed instructions may impose limitations on either the scope of information that is accessible to an escrow agent or limitations on when data files can be retrieved in cleartext form.

Summary of Roberts

Roberts purportedly discloses a system for automatically collecting profile information when a customer accesses a company Web site. After the profile information is known, dynamic content is displayed to the customer based on the customer's profile, which includes customized

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Web pages. The Roberts system for gathering customer profile data includes receiving user identification data and creating a customer profile. The customer profile is retrieved from a profile database when a call from the customer is received. Thereafter, the customer profile is compared to marketing material maintained by the company and a dynamic content message is generated for display on the customer computer.

Summary of Misra

Misra is purportedly directed to a system that has a facility to check authorization and authentication information in a distributed environment. The system includes a principal, such as a portable computer that holds a secure package which may be encrypted or may include a digital signature. Once the principal has been provided with the secure package, the principal may send a request to log in to the distributed system along with authorization and authentication information. The secure package is accessed to determine whether the principal is authorized to connect to the distributed system. Where the principal is not authorized to connect to the distributed system, the principal's request to log in is denied. In contrast, where the principal is authorized to connect to the distributed system, the principal's request to connect is granted.

Summary of Wang

Wang is purportedly directed to a channel access protocol for implementing a wireless data network. More specifically, Wang discloses a network protocol for a high channel utilization. The resulting network access scheme allows a transmitter to send messages to a cellular base station, simultaneously with other transmitters, without the need for retransmission, if the message reaches the receiver with sufficient strength. Multiple transmitters and receivers are distributed over a geographical area, sharing the same frequency channels. As a result,

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multiple messages are able to capture multiple receivers simultaneously, thereby improving the channel utilization. A message received by a base station is forwarded, either by a wired link or wireless link, to a network control center for routing. The base stations are distributed over a service area in accordance with the expected density of the wireless terminals and the physical attributes of the terrain.

Summary of Hershey

Hershey is purportedly directed to a system for communicating between mobile telephone devices. More specifically, Hershey purportedly discloses a communication protocol where a mobile unit creates a message packet that it desires to transmit to an intended receiver having a unique identification number, such as a mobile telephone number. The initiating mobile unit broadcasts the message packet in low power to local mobile units in the reception area. Each mobile unit that receives the message without errors responds with an acknowledgement signal. Each mobile unit that receives the broadcast determines if the message packet is valid. The mobile units compare the mobile unit identification number of the valid message packets with its own internal identification number. If the identification numbers match, the message was successfully transmitted to the intended mobile unit.

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